

I/We Claim

1. Mail location apparatus operative to locate a mail item at a predetermined location in first and second mutually perpendicular directions including a first guide  
5 for engagement by a first edge of a mail item; a second guide for engagement by a second edge of the mail item; said second edge being adjacent to and adjoining said first edge at a corner of the mail item; sensor means including a face engageable by said corner of the mail  
10 item; said face being inclined to both said first and second directions; said sensor means being operated in response to the mail item being located in said predetermined location with said first edge engaging said first guide and said second edge engaging said second  
15 guide.

2. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first guide comprises a first guide wall extending lengthwise in said second direction and the  
20 second guide comprises a second guide wall extending lengthwise in the first direction; said first and second guide walls defining the predetermined location for the mail item.

25 3. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein adjacent ends of the first and second guide walls are spaced apart and the face of the sensor means normally is located to extend between the adjacent ends of the first and second guide walls across a corner of the  
30 predetermined mail location.

4. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein the sensor is responsive to displacement of the face out of the predetermined location for the mail item.

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5. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein the face of the sensor is on an element displaceable in a direction inclined to both the first guide wall and the second guide wall by insertion of a mail item into the predetermined location.

6. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 5 wherein the element is mounted on a pivot.

7. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 5 including resilient means operative to urge the element to a location in which the face thereof extends across the corner of the predetermined mail location.

8. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 5 wherein the sensor means includes a detector responsive to displacement of the element to a position in which the face of the element does not extend across the corner of the predetermined mail location.

9. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the mail item is located in the predetermined location between a support platform and a reference wall and wherein the face of the sensor extends at least beyond the support platform and the reference wall.

10. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 9 wherein the first and second guide walls extend respectively from the reference wall; the support platform is displaceable from an open position in which mail can be inserted into the predetermined location between the reference wall and the support platform to a closed position in which the mail item located in the predetermined position is held by the reference wall and the support platform.

11. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 10 in combination with a print head wherein the reference wall has an aperture therein and said print head is selectively operable to print a postal indicium through said aperture  
5 of the reference wall onto the mail item located in the predetermined position.

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11. Mail location apparatus as claimed in claim 10 in combination with a print head wherein the reference wall has an aperture therein and said print head is selectively operable to print a postal indicium through said aperture of the reference wall onto the mail item located in the predetermined position.